



**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Howie C. Morales**  
Lt. Governor

**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Harold Runnels Building  
1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469  
Telephone (505) 827-2855  
[www.env.nm.gov](http://www.env.nm.gov)

**Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested**



**James C. Kenney**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Jennifer J. Pruett**  
Deputy Secretary

September 3, 2019

Mr. Jim Chiasson, Utilities Director, PE  
City of Rio Rancho  
3200 Civic Center Circle, NE  
Suite 205  
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124

**Re: City of Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #6, Major, Individual Permit; SIC 4952; NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection; NPDES Permit No. NM0027987; Inspection Date: August 13, 2019**

Dear Mr. Chiasson:

Enclosed please find a copy of the report and check list for the referenced inspection that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted at your facility on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This inspection report will be sent to the USEPA in Dallas for their review. These inspections are used by USEPA to determine compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program in accordance with requirements of the federal Clean Water Act.

Further explanations and problems noted during this inspection are discussed on the completed form and checklist of this inspection report. Problems noted during this inspection are discussed in the "Further Explanations" section of the inspection report.

You are encouraged to review the inspection report, required to correct any problems noted during the inspection, and advised to modify your operational and/or administrative procedures, as appropriate. If you have comments on or concerns with the basis for the findings in the NMED inspection report, please contact us (see the address below) in writing within 30 days from the date of this letter. Further, you are encouraged to notify in writing both the USEPA and NMED regarding modifications and compliance schedules at the addresses below:

David Long, Enforcement Coordinator  
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 NPDES  
Enforcement Branch (6EN-WM)  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Sarah Holcomb, Program Manager  
New Mexico Environment Department  
Surface Water Quality Bureau (N2050)  
Point Source Regulation Section  
P.O. Box 5469  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

**City of Rio Rancho**  
**September 3, 2019**  
**Page 2**

David Long (Long.David@epa.gov) is USEPA Region 6's Acting NPDES Enforcement Coordinator at the above address. If you have any questions about this inspection report, please contact Sandra Gabaldón at 505-827-1041 or at Sandra.gabaldon@state.nm.us.

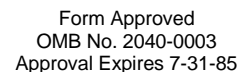
Sincerely,  
*/s/ Sarah Holcomb*

Sarah Holcomb  
Program Manager  
Point Source Regulation Section  
Surface Water Quality Bureau

cc: Carol Peters-Wagnon, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail  
David Long, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail  
Amy Andrews, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail  
David Esparza, USEPA (6EN-WM) by e-mail  
Brent Larsen and Tung Nguyen, USEPA (6WQ-PP) by e-mail  
Gladys Gooden-Jackson, USEPA (6EN-WC) by e-mail  
John Rhoderick, NMED District I by e-mail

Dennis Gonzales, City of Rio Rancho by e-mail  
Eddie DeLara, City of Rio Rancho by e-mail  
Bill Jacquez, City of Rio Rancho by email

SH/sg



## Section A: National Data System Coding

Transaction Code			NPDES								yr/mo/day					Inspec. Type		Inspector		Fac Type					
1	N	2	5	3	N	M	0	0	2	7	9	8	7	1	9	0	8	1	3	18	C	19	S	20	1
<div> <div>M</div><div>A</div><div>J</div><div>O</div><div>R</div> <div>W</div><div>W</div><div>T</div><div>P</div> </div>																									
Inspection Work Days					Facility Evaluation Rating					BI		QA		-----Reserved-----											
67			1	69	70	4				71	N	72	N	73				74	75						80

Name and Location of Facility Inspected ( <i>For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number</i> ) Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #2 – City of Rio Rancho I-25 South, Take Exit 242 TO HWY 550, SOUTH ON 528 TO INDUSTRIAL LOOP follow to WWTP. <div style="text-align: center;"><b>SANDOVAL COUNTY</b></div>		Entry Time /Date 0938 Hours / August 13, 2019	Permit Effective Date July 1, 2019
		Exit Time/Date 1437 Hours / August 13, 2019	Permit Expiration Date June 30, 2021
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) Dennis Gonzales, Lead Operator (505) 604-8769 Eddie Delara, Operations Manager (505) 975-1569 Kyle Medders, Project Manager (505) 896-8810/(505) 975-1566 (Cell) Karl Stephens, Project Manager (505) 259-7485 (Cell) Rita Armijo, Lab supervisor (505) 891-5024			Other Facility Data  SIC: 4952  Latitude: 35°15'23" N Longitude: -106°35'32" W
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Jim Chiasson, Utilities Director, P.E. / (505) 896-8715 3200 Civic Center Circle, NE Suite 205 Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124		<div style="text-align: center;">Contacted</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <span>Yes</span> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px; text-align: center;">X</div> <span>No</span> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 10px; text-align: center;"></div> </div>	

S	Permit	S	Flow Measurement	S	Operations & Maintenance	N	CSO/SSO
S	Records/Reports	S	Self-Monitoring Program	M	Sludge Handling/Disposal	N	Pollution Prevention
S	Facility Site Review	N	Compliance Schedules	N	Pretreatment	N	Multimedia
M	Effluent/Receiving Waters	S	Laboratory	N	Storm Water	N	Other:

**Please see checklist and further explanations for details of findings**

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s)	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax	Date
Sandra Gabaldon /s/ <i>Sandra Gabaldon</i>	NMED/SWQB/(505) 827-1041/(505) 827-0160	
Signature of Management QA Reviewer /s/ <i>Kevin Pierard</i> Kevin Pierard, Municipal Team Lead	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers NMED/SWQB/(505) 827-2798/(505) 827-0160	Date

RIO RANCHO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT #2		PERMIT NO. NM0027987	
SECTION A – PERMIT VERIFICATION			
PERMIT SATISFACTORILY ADDRESSES OBSERVATIONS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> )	
DETAILS: The permit contains two internal outfalls. With this inspection, focus was on WWTP #6, outfall 601, which is conveyed to Rio Rancho WWTP #2 for discharge.			
1. CORRECT NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF PERMITTEE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. NOTIFICATION GIVEN TO EPA/STATE OF NEW DIFFERENT OR INCREASED DISCHARGES		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. NUMBER AND LOCATION OF DISCHARGE POINTS AS DESCRIBED IN PERMIT		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. ALL DISCHARGES ARE PERMITTED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
SECTION B – RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING EVALUATION			
RECORDS AND REPORTS MAINTAINED AS REQUIRED BY PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> )	
DETAILS:			
1. ANALYTICAL RESULTS CONSISTENT WITH DATA REPORTED ON DMRs.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES DATA ADEQUATE AND INCLUDE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
a) DATES, TIME(S) AND LOCATION(S) OF SAMPLING		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
b) NAME OF INDIVIDUAL PERFORMING SAMPLING		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
c) ANALYTICAL METHODS AND TECHNIQUES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
d) RESULTS OF ANALYSES AND CALIBRATIONS.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
e) DATES AND TIMES OF ANALYSES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
f) NAME OF PERSON(S) PERFORMING ANALYSES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. LABORATORY EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE RECORDS ADEQUATE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. PLANT RECORDS INCLUDE SCHEDULES, DATES OF EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5. EFFLUENT LOADINGS CALCULATED USING DAILY EFFLUENT FLOW AND DAILY ANALYTICAL DATA.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
SECTION C – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE			
TREATMENT FACILITY PROPERLY OPERATED AND MAINTAINED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> )	
DETAILS:			
1. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY OPERATED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY MAINTAINED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. STANDBY POWER OR OTHER EQUIVALENT PROVIDED .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. ADEQUATE ALARM SYSTEM FOR POWER OR EQUIPMENT FAILURES AVAILABLE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5. ALL NEEDED TREATMENT UNITS IN SERVICE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
6. ADEQUATE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED OPERATORS PROVIDED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
7. SPARE PARTS AND SUPPLIES INVENTORY MAINTAINED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
8. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL AVAILABLE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES AND SCHEDULES ESTABLISHED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT CONTROL ESTABLISHED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	

RIO RANCHO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT #2		PERMIT NO. NM0027987	
SECTION C – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (CONT'D)			
9. HAVE BYPASSES/OVERFLOWS OCCURRED AT THE PLANT OR IN THE COLLECTION SYSTEM IN THE LAST YEAR?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
IF SO, HAS THE REGULATORY AGENCY BEEN NOTIFIED?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
HAS CORRECTIVE ACTION BEEN TAKEN TO PREVENT ADDITIONAL BYPASSES/OVERFLOWS?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
10.HAVE ANY HYDRAULIC OVERLOADS OCCURRED AT THE TREATMENT PLANT?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
IF SO, DID PERMIT VIOLATIONS OCCUR AS A RESULT?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
SECTION D – SELF-MONITORING			
PERMITTEE SELF-MONITORING MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> ).	
1. SAMPLES TAKEN AT SITE(S) SPECIFIED IN PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
2. LOCATIONS ADEQUATE FOR REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
3. FLOW PROPORTIONED SAMPLES OBTAINED WHEN REQUIRED BY PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
4. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES COMPLETED ON PARAMETERS SPECIFIED IN PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
5. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES PERFORMED AT FREQUENCY SPECIFIED IN PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
6. SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURES ADEQUATE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
a) SAMPLES REFRIGERATED DURING COMPOSITING.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
b) PROPER PRESERVATION TECHNIQUES USED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
c) CONTAINERS AND SAMPLE HOLDING TIMES CONFORM TO 40 CFR 136.3.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
7. IF MONITORING AND ANALYSES ARE PERFORMED MORE OFTEN THAN REQUIRED BY PERMIT, ARE THE RESULTS REPORTED IN PERMITTEE’S SELF-MONITORING REPORT?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
SECTION E – FLOW MEASUREMENT			
PERMITTEE FLOW MEASUREMENT MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> .)	
1. PRIMARY FLOW MEASUREMENT DEVICE PROPERLY INSTALLED AND MAINTAINED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
2. FLOW MEASURED AT EACH OUTFALL AS REQUIRED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
3. SECONDARY INSTRUMENTS (TOTALIZERS, RECORDERS, ETC.) PROPERLY OPERATED AND MAINTAINED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
4. CALIBRATION FREQUENCY ADEQUATE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
RECORDS MAINTAINED OF CALIBRATION PROCEDURES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
CALIBRATION CHECKS DONE TO ASSURE CONTINUED COMPLIANCE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
5. FLOW ENTERING DEVICE WELL DISTRIBUTED ACROSS THE CHANNEL AND FREE OF TURBULENCE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
6. HEAD MEASURED AT PROPER LOCATION.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
7. FLOW MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT ADEQUATE TO HANDLE EXPECTED RANGE OF FLOW RATES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
SECTION F – LABORATORY			
PERMITTEE LABORATORY PROCEDURES MEET PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS: Laboratory analysis is done by the Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #2 Laboratory, along with contract Laboratories		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> )	
1. EPA APPROVED ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES USED (40 CFR 136.3 FOR LIQUIDS, 503.8(b) FOR SLUDGES)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA

RIO RANCHO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT #2						PERMIT NO. NM0027987	
SECTION F - LABORATORY (CONT'D)							
2. IF ALTERNATIVE ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES ARE USED, PROPER APPROVAL HAS BEEN OBTAINED						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. SATISFACTORY CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES ADEQUATE.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5. DUPLICATE SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. <u>100</u> % OF THE TIME.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
6. SPIKED SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. <u>10</u> % OF THE TIME.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
7. COMMERCIAL LABORATORY USED.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
LAB NAME <u>Hall Environmental Analysis Laboratory</u>				Sage ATC Environmental Consulting			
LAB ADDRESS <u>4901 Hawkins NE; Albuquerque, NM 87109</u>				832 NW 67 <sup>th</sup> Street; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma			
PARAMETERS PERFORMED: <u>PCB, Arsenic, Ammonia(N), Adjusted Gross Alpha, TDS, O&amp;G, TP, Hexachlorobenzene</u>				Biomonitoring			
SECTION G - EFFLUENT/RECEIVING WATERS OBSERVATIONS. <input type="checkbox"/> S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>YES</u> ).							
OUTFALL NO.	OIL SHEEN	GREASE	TURBIDITY	VISIBLE FOAM	FLOAT SOL.	COLOR	OTHER
001	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
RECEIVING WATER OBSERVATIONS: Receiving stream not observed. Please see further explanations for details on effluent excursions from WWTP #6 and WWTP #2							
SECTION H - SLUDGE DISPOSAL							
SLUDGE DISPOSAL MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS:				<input type="checkbox"/> S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>YES</u> ).			
1. SLUDGE MANAGEMENT ADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN EFFLUENT QUALITY.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. SLUDGE RECORDS MAINTAINED AS REQUIRED BY 40 CFR 503.						<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. FOR LAND APPLIED SLUDGE, TYPE OF LAND APPLIED TO: <u>N/A</u> (e.g., FOREST, AGRICULTURAL, PUBLIC CONTACT SITE)							
SECTION I - SAMPLING INSPECTION PROCEDURES (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>  </u> ).							
1. SAMPLES OBTAINED THIS INSPECTION - NO SAMPLES WERE OBTAINED DURING THIS INSPECTION						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. TYPE OF SAMPLE OBTAINED GRAB _____ COMPOSITE SAMPLE <u>  </u> METHOD _____ FREQUENCY _____							
3. SAMPLES PRESERVED.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. FLOW PROPORTIONED SAMPLES OBTAINED.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5. SAMPLE OBTAINED FROM FACILITY'S SAMPLING DEVICE.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
6. SAMPLE REPRESENTATIVE OF VOLUME AND MATURE OF DISCHARGE.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
7. SAMPLE SPLIT WITH PERMITTEE.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
8. CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY PROCEDURES EMPLOYED.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
9. SAMPLES COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PERMIT.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	

Compliance Evaluation Inspection  
Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #6  
(Internal Outfall into Rio Rancho #2 WWTP)  
NPDES Permit No. NM0027987  
Date of Inspection: August 13, 2019

**INTRODUCTION:**

A Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted at the Rio Rancho #6 Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) on August 13, 2019 by Sandra Gabaldón and Daniel Valenta, of the State of New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB). The Rio Rancho WWTP #6 effluent is conveyed to Rio Rancho WWTP #2 for discharge. This facility is classified as a major discharger under the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), Section 402. This facility is regulated under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program and is assigned NPDES permit number NM0027987. The facility design flow of WWTP #6 is 1.2 million gallons per day (MGD).

The NMED performs a specific number of CEI's annually for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The purpose of this inspection is to provide the USEPA with information to evaluate the permittee's compliance with their NPDES permit. The enclosed inspection report is based on verbal information supplied by the permittee's representatives, observations made by the NMED inspector, and a review of records maintained by the permittee, commercial laboratories, and/or NMED. Findings of the inspection are detailed on the attached EPA form 3560-3 and in the narrative Further Explanations section of the report.

The Rio Rancho WWTP #6 was the first in the State of New Mexico to begin direct injection into the aquifer to replenish the groundwater for future use. WWTP #6 sends treated effluent to the Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWTF) where it directly injects approximately 1.0 MGD of treated effluent into a well. WWTP#6 also uses effluent for irrigation at various parks and the golf course during the summer months. At times, WWTP #6 will not discharge any effluent to WWTP #2; and, during the Fall and Winter months when the demand for irrigation is not required, the WWTP #6 will send effluent to WWTP#2 for discharge.

The Rio Rancho #6 WWTP conveys treated effluent to Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #2 where it then discharges into the Rio Grande River in Segment 20.6.4.106 of the Rio Grande Basin. This segment, as classified under the *Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Water 20.6.4 NMAC*, has designated uses of: Irrigation, marginal warmwater aquatic life, livestock watering, wildlife habitat, primary contact, and public water supply on the Rio Grande.

**INSPECTION DETAILS:**

The inspectors arrived at the Rio Rancho #2 WWTP at approximately 0938 hours and conducted an entrance interview with Mr. Edward De Lara Jr., Operations Manager and Mr. Dennis Gonzales, Lead Operator. The inspectors made introductions, presented Ms. Gabaldón's credentials, and discussed the purpose of the inspection with Messrs. De Lara and Gonzales. During this initial meeting, Ms. Gabaldón stated that she would like to focus this inspection on WWTP #6. The inspectors and the plant representatives then went to WWTP #6 to begin the inspection.

An exit interview to discuss preliminary findings of the inspection was conducted with Messrs. De Lara Gonzales, Jim Chiasson, Utilities Director, Karl Stevens and Kyle Metters, Project Managers for Jacobs (Contractor for the City of Rio Rancho) at the WWTP #2 facility.

### **TREATMENT SCHEME:**

The City of Rio Rancho has approximately 26 lift stations with approximately 383 miles of gravity wastewater lines. Flow arrives at the WWTP #6 via a lift station and flows through two rotary drum screens with 1 mm openings to remove large trash and debris. The screenings are compacted and dewatered prior to disposal at the Rio Rancho landfill.

Flow then enters the Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) tanks. The organic material is absorbed by bacteria in the Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids (MLSS) while aeration provides dissolved oxygen (DO) for bacteria respiration. At the far end of the aeration basin, cassettes with hollow fiber membranes are submerged in the MLSS. The interior of the hollow fibers are attached to the suction side of the effluent pumps that pull clear effluent from the tank, leaving the bacteria and other solids behind. MBR return pumps move the accumulated solids back to the beginning of the aeration basin.

Disinfection is achieved by the addition of sodium hypochlorite. Flow then goes to a three (3) million-gallon recycled water tank on site or a 4,000 gallon per minute booster station sends it 6 miles to a two (2) million-gallon tank which feeds the Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWTF). Some of the treated effluent water is also used for irrigation at the area parks and golf course.

### **Advanced Water Treatment Facility:**

Once the treated effluent enters the AWTF, it is treated again with an advanced oxidation process (AOP). It is pumped from the holding tank and dosed with ozone and peroxide then mixed by static mixers. Water then flows through two (2) Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC) tanks, bag filters and then again dosed with sodium hypochlorite. Once processed, a holding tank stores the treated water for gravity injection. Injection is controlled by a Baski valve in the well house. This allows for 1 MGD to be injected into the well in a controlled manner. The AWTF has a groundwater discharge permit DP-1650 which is regulated under the New Mexico Ground Water Quality Bureau.

Included in this CEI are supporting documentation that shows the effluent consumption of WWTP#6 along with reports sent to the Office of the State Engineer. These documents are important in showing the actual discharge to the Rio Grande.



### **Sludge:**

The processed sludge is landfilled at the Rio Rancho Landfill which is managed by Waste Management.



Compliance Evaluation Inspection  
Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #6  
(Internal Outfall into Rio Rancho #2 WWTP)  
NPDES Permit No. NM0027987  
Date of Inspection: August 13, 2019

**Further Explanations:**

Note: The sections are arranged according to the format of the enclosed EPA inspection checklist (Form 3560-3), rather than being ranked in order of importance.

**Section G – Effluent/Receiving Waters Observations:**

The Permit requires in Part 1.A 1.C Outfall 601 Final Effluent Limits – 1.2 MGD Design Capacity:

CHARACTERISTICS	lbs/day, unless noted		mg l, unless noted (*1)			MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
POLLUTANT	30-DAY AVG	7-DAY AVG	30-DAY AVG	7-DAY AVG	DAILY MAX	MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY	SAMPLE TYPE
Flow	Report MGD	Report MGD	NIA	NIA	NIA	Daily	Totalized meter
BODs	NIA	NIA	10	15	NIA	5 / Week	12-hr Composite
TSS	NIA	NIA	15	23	NIA	5/Week	12-hr Composite
BODs % removal, minimum	>85 (*2)	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	1 / Week	Calculation
TSS % removal, minimum	>85 (*2)	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	1/Week	Calculation
E. coli bacteria	NIA	NIA	47 cfu/100 ml	NIA	88 cfu/100 ml	Daily	Grab
TRC	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	11 ug/l (*4)	Daily (*3)	Instantaneous Grab (*5)
DO (*6)	NIA	NIA	Report	NIA	Report	5/Week	Instantaneous Grab (*5)
PCB (*9)	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	Report	Once	Grab
Arsenic, total	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	Report	1/Quarter	Grab
Ammonia, total (as N)	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	Report	1/Quarter	Grab
Adjusted gross alpha (*10)	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	Report	1/Quarter	Grab
TDS	NIA	NIA	1580	NIA	2372	5/Week	12-hr Composite
O&G	NIA	NIA	10	NIA	15	5/Week	12-hr Composite
Phosphorus, total (TP)	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	Report	1/Quarter	12-hr Composite
Hexachlorobenzene (*13)	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	Report	1/Quarter	Grab

**Findings** for Effluent/Receiving Waters Observations: (Rio Rancho WWTP #2 and Rio Rancho WWTP #6)  
Review of exceedances over the last year, 2019 to present.

Facility:	Date:	Pollutant	Effluent Limit:	Exceedance:
Rio Rancho WWTP #2	January 24, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	110 cfu/100 mL
Rio Rancho WWTP #2	February 20, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	145 cfu/100 mL
Rio Rancho WWTP#2	February 28, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	168.2 cfu/100 mL
Rio Rancho WWTP#2	March 4, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	125 cfu/100 mL

Facility:	Date:	Pollutant	Effluent Limit:	Exceedance:
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	March 25, 2019	TRC	11 ug/L	39ug/L
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	March 18, 2019 @0941 Hours	TRC	11 ug/L	27 ug/L
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	March 18, 2019 @1102 Hours	TRC	11 ug/L	20 ug/L
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	March 18, 2019 @1223 Hours	TRC	11 ug/L	Below Detection Limits
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	April 30, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	120 cfu/100 mL
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	May 13, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	170 cfu/100 mL
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	May 15 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	590 cfu/100 mL
Rio Rancho WWTP#2	May 12, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	300 cfu/100 mL
Rio Rancho WWTP#6	May 25, 2019	E. coli	88 cfu/100 mL	340 cfu/100 mL

All exceedances were documented, and documentation sent to both the EPA and NMED. Corrective actions were taken, and the facilities were back in compliance within the same day or within a day of the exceedance.

#### **Section H: Sludge Disposal – Overall Rating of “Unsatisfactory”**

The permit requires in Part IV, Element 3 – Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Disposal:

##### *Recordkeeping Requirements:*

*The permittee shall develop the following information and shall retain the information for five years:*

- a. A description, including procedures followed, and results of the Paint Filter tests performed.*
- b. The description, including procedures followed, and results of the TCLP test.*

##### *Reporting Requirements:*

- a. Results of the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure Test conducted on the sludge to be disposed (Pass/Fail).*
- b. Annual sludge production in dry metric tons/year.*
- c. Amount of Sludge transported interstate in dry metric tons/year.*
- d. A certification that sewage sludge meets the requirements in 40 CFR 258 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed in a municipal solid waste landfill (MSWL) unit shall be attached to the DMR.*

#### **Findings** for Sludge Disposal:

The facility did not provide the required certification that states the sewage sludge meets the requirements of 40 CFR 258 concerning the quality of the sludge disposed at a MSWL. This documentation should be attached to the yearly DMRs submitted in February to EPA.

**NMED/SWQB  
Official Photograph Log  
Photo # 1**

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: August 13, 2019	Time: 1105 Hours
City/County: City of Rio Rancho / Sandoval County		State: New Mexico
Location: City of Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #6		
Subject: Headworks		



**NMED/SWQB  
Official Photograph Log  
Photo # 2**

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: August 13, 2019	Time: 1114 Hours
City/County: City of Rio Rancho / Sandoval County		State: New Mexico
Location: City of Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #6		
Subject: Underground MBRs		





**NMED/SWQB  
Official Photograph Log  
Photo # 3**

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: August 13, 2019	Time: 1131 Hours
City/County: City of Rio Rancho / Sandoval County		State: New Mexico
Location: City of Rio Rancho Wastewater Treatment Plant #6		
Subject: 3 Million-Gallon Storage Tank		



**NMED/SWQB  
Official Photograph Log  
Photo # 4**

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: August 13, 2019	Time: 1205 Hours
City/County: City of Rio Rancho / Sandoval County		State: New Mexico
Location: AWTF		
Subject: Granulated Activated Carbon Tanks		



**NMED/SWQB**  
**Official Photograph Log**  
**Photo # 5**

Photographer: Daniel Valenta	Date: August 13, 2019	Time: 1216 Hours
City/County: City of Rio Rancho / Sandoval County		State: New Mexico
Location: AWTF		
Subject: Overview of AWTF Process		

